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Letter dated 5 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 3 August 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 24 to 30 July 2000 they carried out 220 sorties, 106 of them from Saudi Arabia, 66 from Kuwait and 48 from Turkey. He goes on to urge the Security Council to meet its responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom and with the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 5 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They carried out 220 sorties in the period from 24 to 30 July 2000, 106 of them from Saudi Arabia, 66 from Kuwait and 48 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 48 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1045 hours on 24 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Baibo, Rawanduz, Zakho and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1320 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1020 hours on 25 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Baibo, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar, Sinjar, Rawanduz, Dokan and Ba'shiqah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1000 hours on 26 July 2000, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Dokan and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1230 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 172 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 0925 hours on 24 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 20 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Taqtaqanah, Shinafiyah, Basrah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Qal'at Salih, Lasaf and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1040 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1655 hours on 25 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 20 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi

airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Salman, Rumaythah, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Afak, Taqtaqanah, Kut, Hayy, Qal'at Sukkar, Nasiriyah, Basrah, Amarah, Qurnah, Artawi, Qal'at Salih and Ali al-Gharbi areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1800 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1000 hours on 27 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 40 missions, 28 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Hayy, Lasaf and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1210 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0855 hours on 28 July 2000, United States and British F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 28 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Nukhayb, Hayy, Ma'aniyah, Shinafiyah, Taqtaqanah, Rifa'i, Shatrah, Ashbajah, Jalibah, Lasaf and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1010 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0810 hours on 29 July 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 34 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 16 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Nukhayb, Taqtaqanah, Rifa'i, Shatrah, Jalibah, Lasaf, Salman, Artawi, Afak, Qurnah, Samawah, Rumaythah and Diwaniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0940 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 0820 hours on 30 July 2000, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Salman, Samawah, Najaf, Afak and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted

destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials defending the measures being taken to enforce the no-flight zones.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States of America and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these countries in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear international responsibility for actions that are deleterious to the people of Iraq.

The Government of Iraq, condemning these acts of aggression against civilian targets and Iraqi civilian installations, urges the Security Council to perform its assigned duties with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the countries in question with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq